GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:220
ANSWERED ON:25.04.2016
Cut in Scholarships
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Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has made a drastic cut in amount given to States for pre-matric, post-matric and merit-cum-means scholarships to Students belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs/Minorities;

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the reasons therefor; and

(c) the details of grants sought by State Governments and sanctioned grants by centre to State in past two years ?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) to (c) : The Ministries of Social Justice and Empowerment, Tribal Affairs and Minority Affairs are administering Pre-matric, Post-matric and Merit-cum-Means scholarship schemes for students belonging to SCs/STs/OBCs/Minorities. The Department of School Education and Literacy is administering two scholarship schemes namely National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme and National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education for students belonging to economically weaker sections of the society. The Ministry/ Department-wise details are as follows:

Department of Social Justice & Empowerment :

The Central Assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students during last 2 years has been released as per the notional allocation made to the States each year. Central Assistance released under this scheme was Rs. 196337.63 lakhs during 2014-15 and Rs. 221388.00 lakhs during 2015-16.

The Central Assistance of Pre-matric Scholarship for SC students studying in classes IX & X during the last two years has been released after taking into consideration the unspent funds available with the States /UTs. Central Assistance has also been released on DBT mode during the last 2 years based on the details furnished by the States/UTs. Central

Assistance released under this scheme was Rs. 51403.34 lakhs during 2014-15 and Rs. 52470.31 lakhs during 2015-16.

Ministry of Tribal Affairs

For Post-Matric Scholarships, Rs. 72100.82 lakhs and Rs. 85714.54 lakhs had been released against the demand by States amounting to Rs. 177482.14 lakhs and Rs. 194202.43 lakhs in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively.

For Pre-Matric Scholarships, Rs. 20070.87 lakhs and Rs. 22868.95 lakhs had been released against the demand by States amounting to Rs. 36447.61 lakhs and Rs.45288.61 lakhs in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively.

Ministry of Minority Affairs

Government has not made any cut in amount for scholarship under Pre-Matric, Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Means scholarship schemes of this Ministry. The funds for scholarship under Pre-Matric for the year 2014-15 was given to all State Governments for release of scholarship fund amount to the eligible students. A total fund of Rs.1129.27 Crore was released to State Governments during 2014-15 and the fund for Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme is being released directly to the students bank accounts through DBT w. e. f. 2015-16, whereas Post-Matric and Merit-Cum-Means scholarship are being distributed through DBT w.e.f 2014-15.

Department of School Education and Literacy

Under Centrally Sponsored National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship Scheme, Rs.65.20 crore and Rs. 127.13 crore had been sanctioned for scholarships against the requirement of funds amounting to Rs.159.82 crore and Rs. 109.38 crore in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. The funds released in 2015-16 also included release of funds for pending scholarships received in 2014-15. The scholarships are sanctioned as per the availability of the budget. The scholarship amount is transferred directly into the students bank accounts and scholarship funds are not released to the State Governments.

Under Centrally Sponsored National Scheme of Incentive to Girls for Secondary Education, Rs. 94.23 crore and Rs.153.54 crore had been sanctioned as incentive amount for girl students against the requirement of funds amounting to Rs. 169.19 crore and Rs. 288.29 crore in 2014-15 and 2015-16 respectively. The scholarships are sanctioned as per the availability of the budget. The incentive

amount is transferred directly into the students bank accounts and funds are not released to the State Governments.
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